

NEWPORT & GWENT PHILATELY

November 2016

Number 56

Members

We were all saddened by the passing of Dennis Martin at the end of August. Dennis joined the club in 1966 and until recently had been our treasurer.

Dennis' main interest was in the stamps of Gibraltar, especially those of Freddie

Ryman. The club gave £50 to the Marie Curie charity in memory of Dennis.



On a happier note we welcomed Ray David back to the club and Roy Holliss, our resident dealer, has now become a full member. Harry Brooksby, who had been an active member of the Aberystwyth club has moved into the area and has joined our club. We also welcome new members Chris Pipe and Alison Battle.

Meetings

We had a good write-up in the Summer issue of ABPS News of our meetings in the first half of 2016, with a photo in the "I Spy" section. We get printed copies of the magazine but you can also access it on-line at www.abps.org.uk/News.

Following the AGM at the end of May, the three summer meetings continued at the Civic Centre, with Alan Rosser and Brian Brandon of the Barry club providing the entertainment in June. Michael Bale gave a highly entertaining talk on his memoirs as a stamp dealer in July, and August saw members displaying a range of material for a postcard night.

The new season started in September with the usual "new acquisitions" evening. Two weeks later Phil Marsden and Roger Gilbert visited from the Cardiff club.

Next Janet and Nick Nelson from Hereford gave a display of Brazil accompanied by *brigaderos*, a

Brazilian chocolate speciality, and a Monmouthshire delicacy, St Arvans Fat Rascals (Welsh cakes).



This was followed by a bring and buy evening, where lots of bargains were to be found. November started with a visit from the Bridgend club with Reg Lyon showing stamps and artwork by the designer Tony Theobald and Chris Griffiths showing a selection of penny lilac covers including some from the Boer war.

Visits

The first visit of the new season was to Thornbury where we hope that they enjoyed a varied evening of Faroes provisionals (John Perry), Leipzig Fairs (Bev Davies), Phillips covers (Roy Bentley) and Fiji Airmail (Martyn Britton). A few days later John Perry and Martyn Britton reprised their displays for the visit to the Barry club and added Newport Scout Post and Newport Post Offices to complete the evening.

Juniors

The junior club at The Dell continued to thrive, with the youngsters producing one page entries for the Autumn Stampex competition. We submitted an amazing thirteen entries and the children gained a first and a third prize in the their 10 – 12 age group:

1st Connor Bramham: Military
3rd Matthew Kouba: About Me

John Perry produced an article for the Summer issue of ABPS News with the title "It's not just Oldies who collect stamps", which provide excellent publicity of the school stamp clubs.

Federation News

Since the last newsletter, Federation Convention has come and gone. We were delighted that

Erene Grieve gained first prize in the thematic class for her entry on “The Written Word”. We also had entries from John Perry (Bratislava) and Michael Bale (Bahamas) and Roy Bentley (Lundy). Erene is also a member of the Haverfordwest club provided nine entries for the junior competition.

Attendance at the Autumn Day at Port Talbot was disappointing, with only some societies attending. We did sell some material including some for Roy Holliss and gave £29.25 to St David's Hospice as a result.

At the Federation AGM, John Perry was confirmed as chairman for his third year and Bev Davies was confirmed as Youth Officer. The Federation is moving back to paper for circulation of its newsletter, the most recent being for April 2016, with none produced for September 2016. The Federation website will continue, being maintained by our club, and will continue to hold scanned copies of those newsletters. The members at the AGM also voted to continue with the competition arrangements whereby only original entries will be judged and displayed. They voted against colour copies of entries. Entrants are reminded that it is their own responsibility to insure their entries.

ABPS Congress – Cardiff 2017

John Perry and Paul Clarke, the latter from the Cardiff club, are part of the local organising committee for the ABPS Congress to be held in Cardiff at the Jury's Hotel from 27 to 30 July 2017. There will be plenty of local interest with the theme being “Aspects of Wales”. The Sunday morning will give the local clubs the opportunity to display their material to the distinguished guests. As a bonus there will be no charge on that day for club members.

Heidenheim Twinning

The Newport society partnership with Heidenheim started with a visit to the Mansion House in June 1979. Our last twinning visit was in 2003 but we are still in the Heidenheim partnership group that includes Döbeln (in Saxony). On 16 October 2016 the Heidenheim club produced a *Pluskarke* postal stationery

postcard to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the partnership with Döbeln and also commissioned a commemorative postmark.



Other News

The club had a table at the annual Newport 50+ day in October. John Perry and Roy Bentley manned the table and had a busy day but found no active collectors to join our society.



Newport Scouts Christmas Post, which commenced in 1990, will not be operating in 2016. The Scouts are finding it impossible to get enough help in making deliveries. In this respect Newport is not unique, with other Scout post finishing throughout the country.

70 Years Old

The Newport (Mon) Philatelic Society was formed on 16 October 1947, so it will be time to celebrate our 70th anniversary next year. A little early perhaps but the society will be hosting the South Wales Federation Autumn day on 23 September 2017 at the Graig Community Centre (the same place as the 2014 stamp fair). ABPS Congress 2017 also gives us a chance to tell the world. Other possibilities are an anniversary dinner and a “Smiler” sheet.

Please remember that our own club website is a mine of local philatelic information:
<http://newportgwentphilatelic.weebly.com>.

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